

Corsica River Targeted Watershed Monthly Report

March 2006

Project Purpose

- The Corsica Watershed Project is a pilot program to develop best business practices and implement the processes, partnerships, assessment, and implementation tools needed to meet that threshold for restoring a single sub-watershed of the Chesapeake Bay.
- The end point is to attain the new State water quality standards and remove the Corsica River from the Impaired Waters List (303(d) list) with an initial focus on nutrients and sediment, concurrent with planning and assessment to address the other impairments.

New this month

Riparian buffer plantings have begunsee Item 4.

Town Council gets project update and public meeting on septic retrofits held.....see Coordination and communication activities.

State budget approved.....see Item 12.

STATUS: Implementation Activities

	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Overall Goal</u>	<u>% Towards Goal</u>	<u>Issues</u>	<u>Point of Contact</u>
1	Cover Crops/Small grain	458 acres of cover crops/1157 acres of Small Grain Enhancement	6000 acres/yr. (cover crops and small grain enhancement)	11% of Cover crop goal 58% of Small Grain Enhancement	319 grant award by EPA too late to benefit the 2005 cover crop season.	John Rhoderick
2	Oysters	77,588 bushels of shell planted on 5.6 acres with 5.6 million oyster spat	10 acres of oyster bar	56.00%		Charlie Frentz
3	Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)	9 sites were planted in Spring 2005 to test survival, none were successful	10 acres	0.00%	Transplants did not survive; presently analyzing why; will continue to evaluate best potential locations for plantings	Chris Heyer
4	Riparian Buffer plantings	12 acres forested riparian buffer at the former Bloomfield Farm site	200 acres	6.00%		Kevin Smith

STATUS: Monitoring Activities

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Point of Contact</u>
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5	Non-Tidal	5 originally sites in the Corsica were assessed using MBSS methods. 2 sites were surveyed for evidence of rare, threatened or endangered freshwater mussel species.	Sampling program is being developed to determine the overall distribution of freshwater mussels in Corsica. This is anticipated to result in additional sampling sites being assess in August and September for the presence of freshwater mussels.	Ron Klauda, Niles Primrose
		3 sites in the Corsica are being instrumented to collect storm event samples and baseflow samples for nutrient and sediment load estimates.	Sampling program began in November	Niles Primrose
6	Non-Tidal			
7	Non-Tidal	Interagency meetings occurred to coordinate monitoring activities (DNR, MDE)	Ongoing	
8	Tidal	MGS created bottom maps of Corsica to guide oyster and SAV restoration	Ongoing	Chris Heyer
9	Tidal	Continuous water monitoring has been deployed in several locations	Discussion ongoing whether to re-locate some monitoring instrumentation to existing oyster bars	Chris Heyer
10	Tidal	Test areas were planted with SAV in both 2004 and 2005. The 2004 test sites survived but did not return in 2005. The 2005 test sites failed due to poor water quality and perhaps other reasons-being investigated	Large scale restoration techniques are being developed. Incorporating use of bottom mapping to target suitable areas	Chris Heyer

STATUS: Funding Activities

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Status</u>	
11 Proposed Federal Budget	\$6,000,000 Enhancement to EPA's Budget targeted for the Corsica River Pilot Project	Pending	These funds would be used for wetland restoration, stream restoration and riparian buffer and reforestation activities.
12 State Budget	Corsica River Targeted Watershed Project 07 State Budget	Budget adopted	This project includes funding and staffing for upgrading an existing sewage treatment plants, managing stormwater runoff, stream and wetland restoration, implementing a variety of agricultural best management practices including cover crops and horse pasture management and evaluating the effectiveness of these practices.

2007-2011

<u>Agency Needs</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Point of Contact</u>
DNR - includes 4 positions	\$6,501,455	Frank Dawson
MDA - includes 2 positions	\$1,450,581	John Rhoderick
MDE - includes 2 positions	\$10,895,525	Richard Eskin
MDP - includes 1 position	\$58,325	Tay Harris
Total Budget Request for 2007-2011	\$18,905,886	

2007

<u>Agency Needs</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Point of Contact</u>
DNR - includes 4 positions	\$1,054,453	Frank Dawson
MDA - includes 1 positions	\$331,163	John Rhoderick
MDE - includes 2 positions	\$1,519,178	Richard Eskin
MDP - includes 1 position	\$58,325	Tay Harris
Total Budget Request for 2007 ONLY	\$2,963,119	

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Funder</u>	<u>Point of Contact</u>
13 Grant Application	Stormwater Management	Awarded	\$100,000	Chesapeake Bay Trust	John McCoy
14 Grant Application	Wetlands restoration, Stormwater management, Urban reforestation	Waiting final notification on status	\$800,000	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	John McCoy
15 Grant Application	Agricultural Strategy	Contracts being executed	\$212,998	U.S. EPA 319 program	John Rhoderick
16 Grant Application	Maryland Department of the Environment's Implementation Monitoring Project	Contracts being executed	\$77,225	U.S. EPA 319 program	Niles Primrose

17	Grant Application	Monitoring for Interim and Post Project Water Quality Cover crop implementation results Stormwater bmp implementation results Monitoring for Living Resource Projections	Contracts being executed	\$208,040	U.S. EPA 319 program	John McCoy
18	Grant Application	Town of Centreville Demonstration Project Capacity building Programmatic changes Urban and watershed outreach and education Stormwater retrofit/wetland habitat development	Contracts being executed	\$300,500	U.S. EPA 319 program	Royden Powell
19	Grant	Wetlands restoration, Stormwater management, Urban reforestation	Available after 7/06	\$200,000	U.S. EPA Chesapeake Bay program	John McCoy

STATUS: Coordination/Communication Activities

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Point of Contact</u>
Corsica River Water Festival	Community based outreach event on the banks of the	Planning tentative date 5/4	Elena Takaki
Centreville Town Council	Briefing on the overall project	Meeting held 3/16	John McCoy / Danielle Lucid
Public Meeting	Role out the BRF septic RFP and recruit participants	Meeting held 3/20	Frank Digialleonardo
Communications Task Force	Ad Hoc group developing communications materials for Management group for the	Meetings held 3/8 and 3/21	Carol Jelich
Storm Water Task Force	CBT grant	Meetings held 3/8 and 3/21	Lou Etgen
Fifth implementation meeting	Attendance - 31 people representing 2 State agencies, 1 Federal agency, the County, the Town of Centreville, 2 Universities, 3 NGO's .		

Activities Scheduled for April 2006

April 11th Corsica Implementers Meeting

April 5th Public meeting to select participants in the Residential Stormwater Management project funded by CBT

Activities for Spring 2006

Chesapeake Bay Trust grant launch

Restoration activities to begin on the Riggs Farm

Corsica River Water Festival in May

Governor Ehrlich Action Items

Lobby for the \$6 million for the Corsica in the President's budget